

YALSA Board of Directors Meeting
ALA Annual Conference, New Orleans
June 24 - 28, 2011

Topic: Resolution on Out of School Hours

Background: The Youth Council Caucus began work on an Council resolution about the role of libraries in after school programs earlier this year. A draft is provided below. The Board will want to come to a consensus on how they would like Nick Buron, YALSA's Division Councilor, to vote on this resolution when it comes before Council at the 2011 ALA Annual Conference.

Action Required: Action

Resolution on Out of School Time Programs

6/6/11 draft

- Whereas, public and school libraries are venues where books, online resources, programs, services and staff can improve the effectiveness of community Out of School programs; and
- Whereas, Out of School opportunities with a librarian contribute to the enjoyment of reading and student success because *kids that read do succeed*, and
- Whereas, Out of School programs that incorporate school and/or public librarians and make available the wide resources of the library enable young people to develop digital literacy skills to improve student achievement, and
- Whereas, 90% of public libraries offer programs in the evenings and on weekends for young people; and
- Whereas, the U.S. Department of Education in 2007 noted a 30% increase in youth participation in library programs between 1993 and 2005 from 35.6 to 54.6 million, and
- Whereas, the Public Library Summer Reading Programs Close the Reading Gap study shows that students who participate in a public library summer reading program score higher on reading achievement tests at the beginning of the next school year than those students who do not participate, and
- Whereas, high quality Out of School programs play an important role in helping young people grow up safe, healthy, educated, connected and employable, and
- Whereas, research has also connected participation in high-quality Out of School programs with multiple benefits for young people, including gains in standardized test scores, and

Whereas, every dollar invested in Out of School programs will save taxpayers approximately \$3, and

Whereas, libraries that now have state and federal grants for Out of School programs have experienced powerful and creative results, and therefore, be it

Resolved that the American Library Association encourage our members to tell their legislators, as well as local and national organizations and associations, about the value of their library to Out of School programs and encourage that adequate